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Application No. 10/586774
Responsive to the office action dated May 28, 2009

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) ~~[[The]]~~ A method of measuring a protein according to claim 1 in a liquid sample that also contains creatinine, the method comprising:

a step of mixing a quantity of the liquid sample with a protein measurement indicator to form a first liquid system in which the protein and the creatinine react with the protein measurement indicator;

a first-step of obtaining a first response value which that reflects a protein concentration in the first liquid sample system, based on coloring of the protein measurement indicator caused by a system containing the liquid sample reaction between the protein and the protein measurement indicator under influence of a reaction between the creatinine and the protein measurement indicator;

a step of preparing another quantity of the liquid sample as a second liquid system that does not contain the protein measurement indicator;

a second-step of obtaining a second response value which that reflects a creatinine concentration in the second liquid sample in a system containing the liquid sample but not containing the protein measurement indicator; and

a third-step of calculating a protein concentration in the liquid sample, based on by using the first response value and inconsideration of the second response value, for eliminating a measurement error caused by the reaction between the creatinine and the protein measurement indicator in the first liquid system.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of measuring a protein according to claim 2,~~
wherein the second-step of obtaining the second response value includes calculation[[.]]

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of an error level included in the first response value, which is caused by the reaction between the creatinine and the protein measurement indicator, based on by using the second response value, of an influence caused by the amount of creatinine on the first response value;

the third-step of calculating the protein concentration includes including calculation of a non-corrected protein concentration as a preliminary value based on from the first response value, and calculation of a corrected final protein concentration by subtracting the influence of the amount of creatinine error level from the preliminary value.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim 3, wherein the calculation the error level in the second-step of obtaining the creatinine influence-second response value is calculated based on by using a predetermined calibration curve;

the calibration curve being prepared in advance by measuring, in accordance with a dye binding method or a protein error method, response values with a plurality of known liquid samples each having including protein of an identical protein-concentration with but and creatinine of a different creatinine-concentration from that of all other known liquid samples, and then obtaining correlating correlation between the response values and with the creatinine concentrations.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim 2, wherein in the third-step of calculating the protein concentration in the liquid sample, a corrected response value of the first response value is obtained by correcting the first response value based on by using the measured first response value and the second response value[[s]], and the protein concentration in the liquid sample is calculated based on by using the corrected response value.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim 5, wherein the corrected response value is calculated by using an arithmetic expression derived from a plurality of sample groups;

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each group consisting of a plurality of known liquid samples ~~having including~~
protein of an identical protein concentration and but creatinine of a different creatinine
concentration from that of all other known liquid samples,

the sample groups ~~having including~~ protein of different protein concentrations each
other, respectively, and

the arithmetic expression being derived from a method including:

a step of measuring a response value for each of the known liquid samples in each
sample group;

a step of obtaining a relationship between the response values obtained from the
known liquid samples and the creatinine concentrations in each sample group[[,]] as a
~~plurality of~~ relational expression[[s]] for all of the sample groups in ~~the a~~ form of linear
expression; and

a step of obtaining a relationship between a gradient in each of the relational
expressions and the response value from the known liquid sample having a specific
~~creatinine~~creatinine concentration in each sample group, in the form of relational
expression.

7. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of measuring a protein~~ according to claim 2,
wherein ~~the measurement of the first response value in the first step is made~~ obtained in
accordance with a first protein measurement procedure provided by a dye binding method
or a protein error method.

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of measuring a protein~~ according to claim 2,
wherein ~~the measurement of the second response value in the second step is made~~
obtained in accordance with an enzyme method, Jaffe method, a copper chelate oxidation
method, a palladium complex competition method, or Benedict method.

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of measuring a protein~~ according to claim 7,
wherein in the step of calculating the protein concentration, the protein concentration is
calculation in the third step is calculated based on by using a predetermined calibration
curve[[,]];

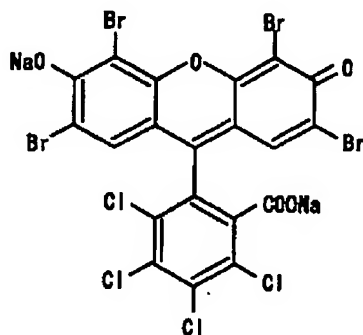
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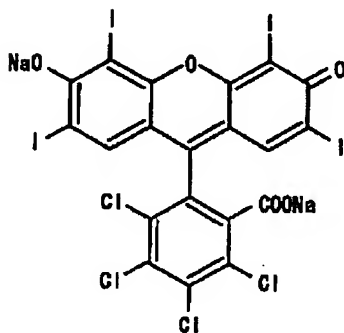
~~(In~~wherein in Chemical Formula 1, X1 represents a halogen, a nitro group or a nitroso group, X2 represents a halogen, X3 represents a halogen or hydrogen, X4 represents a hydroxyl group or its salt, and X5 represents a carboxyl group or its salt[.]).

13. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~measuring a protein~~ according to claim 12, wherein the halogenated xanthene dye has a chemical structure represented by a formula selected ~~one of the~~ from following Chemical formulas 2 through 6:

Chemical Formula 2



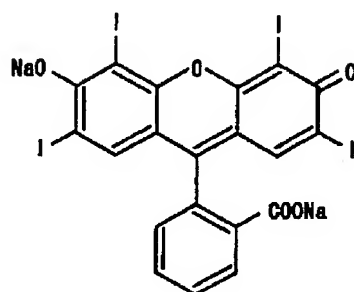
Chemical Formula 3



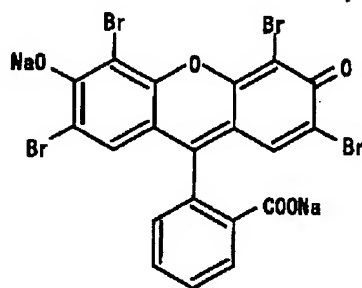
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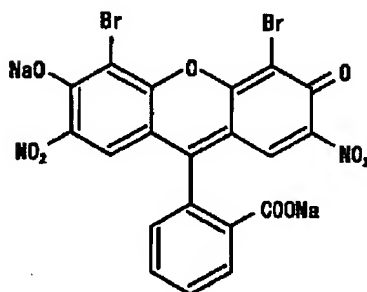
Chemical Formula 4



Chemical Formula 5



Chemical Formula 6



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14. (Withdrawn – currently amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim 11, wherein the triphenylmethane dye is ~~provided by~~ Tetrabromophenol Blue (TBPB), Bromochlorophenol Blue (BCPB) or Bromophenol Blue (BPB).

15. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim ~~[[1]]~~2, wherein the protein measurement indicator is ~~carried by~~ held in a carrier in a dried form ~~before~~ until being exposed to the liquid sample.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim ~~[[1]]~~2, wherein the protein is ~~provided by~~ albumin.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of measuring a protein according to claim ~~[[1]]~~2, wherein the liquid sample is ~~provided by~~ urine, blood, or cerebrospinal fluid.